

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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O R 261641Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0744

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 16622

NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, PORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: FIFTH CONFERENCE IN GLOBAL IMPACT OF APPLIED  
MICROBIOLOGY (GIAM)

REF: STATE 148410

1. ANTON BURGERS (DUTCH), UNESCO SCIENCE SECTOR OFFICER  
DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN PLANNING OF SUBJECT CONFERENCE  
ADVISED DELOFF IN RESPONSE REFTEL PARA 2 QUERIES THAT:  
A) CONFERENCE DOES NOT FALL INTO ANY CATEGORY OF UNESCO  
MEETING; B) MEETING IS ORGANIZED BY PANEL OF APPLIED  
MICROBIOLOGY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CELL RESEARCH  
ORGANIZATION (ICRO), A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION;  
ALTHOUGH C) CONFERENCE BEING HELD UNDER "AUSPICES" OF  
UNEP AND UNESCO; AND D) "LEGAL BASIS" IS THAT OF CONTRACT  
BETWEEN ICRO AND UNESCO UNDER WHICH LATTER PROVIDING  
DOLLARS 20 THOUSAND TOWARDS COSTS (SEE PARA 2127 OF  
DOCUMENT 18 C/5 APPROVED).

2. PREPARATORY MEETING WHICH PORTER ATTENDING, JUNE 30 -  
JULY 2 IN PARIS, WILL DISCUSS SPECIFIC QUESTION OF GOM  
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REFUSAL TO GRANT ISRAELIS VISAS. BURGERS INDICATED THAT

THIS MEETING MIGHT USEFULLY PROPOSE THAT GOM BE GIVEN THREE OR FOUR MONTHS TO RECONSIDER AND CHANGE THEIR POSITION WITH ALTERNATIVE, IF MALAYSIANS DO NOT, OF SWITCHING CONFERENCE SITE TO THAILAND. PHILIPPINES WOULD BE ANOTHER POSSIBILITY. IN ANY EVENT, BURGERS NOTED PORTER COULD BE INFLUENTIAL ADVOCATE IN PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THIS APPROACH.

3. AS ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND, BURGERS NOTED THAT INDONESIA HAD BEEN BRIEFLY CONSIDERED AS ANOTHER SITE BUT GOI REPORTEDLY WOULD ALSO REFUSE TO ISSUE VISAS TO ISRAELIS. ANOTHER OPTION, WHICH UNESCO SECRETARIAT APPARENTLY DOES NOT FAVOR, WOULD BE TO CHANGE CONFERENCE TO ONLY SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGIONAL PARTICIPATION INSTEAD OF WORLD-WIDE COMPOSITION AND THEREBY MAINTAIN KUALA LUMPUR AS SITE. NEVERTHELESS, BURGERS SAID SECRETARIAT HAS IMPRESSION THAT GOI MIGHT NOT PARTICIPATE IN MEETING, EVEN THOUGH INDIVIDUAL ISRAELI SCIENTISTS REPORTEDLY WISH TO (REFTEL), BECAUSE OF UNESCO-GOI IMPASSE OVER ANTI-ISRAELI DECISIONS TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES AT UNESCO'S GENERAL CONFERENCE LAST NOVEMBER.

4. COMMENT: AS PERMDEL INDICATED TO BURGERS, UNESCO CAN ILL AFFORD THE RISK OF FURTHER HARM TO ITS ALREADY BATTERED IMAGE BY CONCEDED TO A MALAYSIAN POLICY THAT CLEARLY CONTRAVENES PRINCIPLE OF UNHINDERED RIGHT OF PARTICIPATION BY MEMBER STATES TO UNESCO-LINKED MEETINGS.

5. PERMDEL WOULD RECOMMEND THAT PORTER ACCORDINGLY BASE HIMSELF ON THIS PRINCIPLE AND ADVOCATE APPROACH IN JUNE 30 - JULY 2 MEETING HERE OF ALLOWING GOM GRACE PERIOD OF SEVERAL MONTHS TO RECONSIDER, AT END OF WHICH ANOTHER SITE FOR CONFERENCE WOULD BE CHOSEN IF, AS SECRETARIAT THINKS LIKELY, GOM DOES NOT CHANGE POSITION. UNESCO SECRETARIAT PREFERS THAILAND AS ALTERNATIVE SITE BECAUSE OF ABLE THAI SCIENTIST THAT WOULD BE ENTRUSTED WITH CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS. HOWEVER, AS PHILIPPINES ALSO ACCEPTABLE, WE WONDER IF MANILA MIGHT NOT BE BETTER CHOICE THAN BANGKOK DUE MORE SETTLED LOCAL POLITICAL SITUATION.

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